GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4054
ANSWERED ON:09.08.2002
UNAUTHORISED CROPS
DADICHILUKA VEERA GOURI SANKARA RAO

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Tobacco Board fixes penalties on unauthorized crop;

(b) if so, whether the excess and unauthorized crop is increasing year after year;

(c) whether the Government are aware that as a result of this the tobacco stocks are piling up in the market and traders are suffering due to holding excess stocks; and

(d) if so, the measures proposed to be taken to restrict the unauthorized and excess crop?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY)

(a) The Tobacco Board collects additional service charges on the unauthorised and excess Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco produced as specified by Government from time to time.

(b) to (d) The excess and unauthorised crop produced by the growers over the past few years has affected the balance between the supply and demand in the market. However, problem of accumulated stock has eased over the past year. Government has attempted to make such excess production un-remunerative by increasing the penalties on the unauthorised tobacco. In addition, the Tobacco Board has launched an intensive educational campaign to encourage the farmers to desist from such over-production and to switch to alternative crops.